

REMARKS

Amendments

The amendment to the specification corrects a typographical error in the statement incorporating related applications, as amended on 22 August 2005. The amendment is supported by the application as filed and introduces no new matter.

A substitute paper-copy sequence listing accompanies this amendment. The amended sequence listing adds the information regarding strand orientation for the nucleotide sequences that was present in the paper-copy sequence listing that was part of the specification as filed. The examiner has identified the omission of this information from the sequence listing as a formal defect in counterpart applications. Although 37 C.F.R. § 1.823 provides that the required components of a sequence listing do not include identification of sense or antisense orientation, applicant is filing this revision to moot the issue here. The revised sequence listing adds no new matter.

A computer-readable copy of the substitute sequence listing is being filed on this date through the Office's electronic submission facility (epave). In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(e), the undersigned states that the paper and computer-readable copies of the sequence listing are identical.

Election

In response to the requirement for restriction stated in the Office letter mailed on 24 March 2006, applicant elects group I, claims 70-75 "drawn to a host cell," without traverse. Claims 79-97, corresponding to nonelected groups III, IV, and V, are canceled without prejudice to their presentation in another application.

Claims 76-79, corresponding to nonelected group II, are retained in the case. Applicant understands that pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 821.04(b), the dependent method claims corresponding to this group will be rejoined with the elected product claim from which they depend upon a finding that the product claim is allowable. Applicant specifically requests such rejoinder.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that this reply fully responds to the outstanding Office action and requests that the examiner prepare an action on the merits at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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